

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

April 29, 2021

“The Hampden-Sydney student will behave as a gentleman at all times and in all places.”

Issue XCX.12

College Receives Second Largest Donation in H-SC History from Dickinson Estate

\$12-million gift to be added to the Hampden-Sydney endowment.

DANIEL NIVENS '23
STAFF WRITER

On April 12, Hampden-Sydney College announced in an email to faculty, staff, and students that it was receiving a \$12 million donation. The money comes following the passing of Mrs. Lucille Dickinson in May of 2019, who was the wife of H-SC alumnus M. Blair Dickinson '37.

The Dickinson family has a long history with the College with at least two Dickinsons serving as trustees of the College. The email announcement goes into great detail on the lives of the Dickinsons; Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson are buried in the cemetery of College

Church. *The Tiger* sat down with President Larry Stimpert to discuss in further detail the donation.

When money is given to the College, it can come in two forms: designed funds or undesig-

nered funds. Designated funds are given for a specific purpose; the Pauley donation is an example. In contrast, the Dickinson donation did not have a designated purpose. As such, the money is added to the endowment of the College, which as of Decem-

ber 31, 2020 totaled ~\$220 million. President Stimpert mentioned the possibility that the Board of Trustees may designate the money to a specific purpose but stressed that there

are no definitive plans. If the Board does not decide to designate the money, it will simply be incorporated into the endowment, which returns about 4.5% of its value to the College annually. The donation, in either case, will continue to ben-

efit the College for years to come. President Stimpert also provided a copy of Mr. Dickinson's obituary from the Summer 1985 edition of *The Record*. In that obituary, a classmate remarked, "In a casual but cultivated manner, [Blair] peppered his conversation with humorous allusions, recitations of Kipling poems, snatches from Elizabethan lyrics, and even irreverent paraphrases of quatrains of Omar. His enjoyment of literature was contagious. In short, *Blair had style*" (emphasis added).

Mr. Dickinson and his wife were stellar examples of a family devoted to Hamp-

den-Sydney College just as Mr. Dickinson was an example of the "good man and good citizen." In the words of President Stimpert,

"Let us all be humbled by, and grateful for, their lives of service to education and their decision to honor the College in their estate plans."

UPDATE: Gilmer Water Is Clean!

NASIM AL-SAADAWI '21
GUEST WRITER

Rumors have been recirculating around campus about the amoebas that contaminated the tap water supply in Gilmer just over two years ago. This contamination did occur but was not considered a health risk to students or faculty on campus.

The amoebas were discovered by Elliott Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Kristian Hargadon '01 and were found to be harmless. Since then, the pipes carrying water to Gilmer have been sterilized with "chlorine shock and [flushed]," for research purposes only Hargadon explained.

However, the recent influx of non-credible information about the contamination still leaves students afraid of their water. In a year where the pandemic has stolen all major headlines, students have gained a new respect for maintaining their health. Questions are continuously being raised about the water quality on campus with a renewed determination for answers.

This has caused students to call for the contamination to be investigated further. Hargadon first noticed the contamination in Gilmer's water supply during a summer cancer research project in 2018 according to biology major Chris Parrish '21, who was present when the amoebas were discovered.

Hargadon was having trouble getting his cancer cell samples to act the way he intended. Upon further investigation, he realized the issue. The tap water in Gilmer was contaminated. Once the discovery was made, Hargadon swiftly informed the Hampden-Sydney administrative offices and sent a sam-

ple of the amoeba to the Virginia Department of Health.

Though the sample was never fully identified, the physical characteristics of the amoebas on campus were consistent with harmless ones. Hargadon elaborated saying, "the Virginia Department of Health confirmed that there were no health concerns about our water supply." While the amoebas were found to be harmless, the entirety of Gilmer and its water supply were sterilized solely for research purposes as emphasized by Hargadon.

Unfortunately, facts didn't stop the suspicion students felt. Rumors are so widespread that students across campus have asked themselves if their tap water was safe to drink.

Parrish doubts the water cleanliness on campus, as does his roommate Skylar Akers '21 who is a bio-chemistry major. Both are aware of the contamination and neither drink the tap water on campus.

Though as Parrish mentioned that doesn't go far when, "the folks in the commons use the same water we do. They use it for cooking and mixing the fountain drinks." Everyone on campus at the time has already consumed the amoebas through college provided food and drinks.

Akers and Parrish noted that the amoebas should be harmless as negative health effects would have already been apparent in people living on campus. While neither Akers nor Parrish were concerned about the amoebas discovered two years ago, they are still concerned about how clean the water is on campus. Like many students they opted to buy a Britta Filter for their tap and jugs of

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Making and Programming: Hampden-Sydney's Student-Led STEM Incubator



Photo courtesy of Varun Yerramsetti '21

VARUN YERRAMSETTI '21
STAFF WRITER

Many students have walked by Brown Student Center room 204 with a confused look on their face. It is not surprising, considering the plethora of tools and machinery inside. This room is called the Maker's Space, and 3-D printing, CNC milling, Raspberry Pi and Arduino boards are all available for use inside.

The Maker's Space was given to the Makers' Collective Club. It was founded by the late Thomas R. Salamon '21, with the help of Franz

Gilbert '23, Sam McLean '22, and Varun Yerramsetti '21. The goal was to provide Hampden-Sydney students with the means and the incentive to be creative. The Maker's Space is an "innovation lab," but unlike those at Ivy League schools, ours is student-led.

This means that every piece of equipment inside the lab was decided on by a student. All of the club's ongoing projects are run by students as well, such as the construction of an FAA-approved drone, the building of a cryptocurrency-mining computer, and doing engineering research

to create a more sustainable and efficient wind turbine.

Students can use the 3-D printers to make prototypes, program the Arduinos to perform specific functions, and use the Raspberry Pis to give any project a "mind of its own." The Maker's Space is adjacent to Dr. Andrew King's office, and members of the club are welcome to use the 'Space under his watchful eye.

The Programming Club was founded in the Fall of 2020. Originally the Math and Computer Science Club, the programming club came about when a

group of senior computer science majors decided to branch the "computer science" part of the former Math and CS club. This was done to supplement students who may not have the time to take a computer science course with knowledge about coding and computer-science related job interview questions.

Although COVID did not allow for this, the club's goal is to travel to coding competitions, blockchain conferences, and "Hack-A-Thons" to gain practical coding experience, whether students are

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Page 2: Dean, Professors Leaving

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Page 5: Hockey Corner, Omelet Bar, Fork in the Road

Page 6: Re-Enacting Feature

GOODBYES

Over 100 Years of Teaching . . . Retiring

ALEX RUBINO '23
GUEST WRITER

At the end of this academic year, we will be saying goodbye to three long serving professors of Hampden-Sydney College: Dr. Arieti, Dr. Mossler, and Dr. Lehman. They have served a total combined 99 years at Hampden-Sydney! We are undoubtedly losing three of our greatest professors here on The Hill. We wish them luck and happy wishes as they enter new chapters in their lives. Their long-lasting effects on students and the Hampden-Sydney community will never be forgotten. Below are brief professional biographies of the professors along with their answers to the following questions: (1) What was your favorite course to teach and why? (2) What was your least favorite course to teach and why? (3) What are your plans for retirement? (4) What will you miss most about Hampden-Sydney?



Dr. James A. Arieti

Thompson Professor of Classics

Arieti received his Ph.D. at Stanford University in 1972. He previously taught at Cornell College, The Pennsylvania State University, and Stanford University before joining the faculty at Hampden-Sydney College in 1978. Arieti has taught at H-SC for 43 years!

(1) “Really, all the courses I have taught are my favorites because they have all achieved the end of forming good men and good citizens. Still, one favorite course was Western Tradition, a primarily a great books course that was succeeded by the three-semester course of Western Culture. Another favorite has been my course in ancient intellectual history, “Humanism in Antiquity.” And, of course, I derived great satisfaction reading Greek and Latin literature with my students in the advanced Greek and Latin courses.”

(2) **Special Question:**

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Dr. Kenneth D. Lehman

Professor of Psychology

Lehman received his Ph.D. at the University of Texas at Austin in 1992 and started his teaching career the same year. He has been teaching at Hampden-Sydney College for 29 years

(1) “I’ve enjoyed all my classes including the Western Culture classes I’ve taught. My favorite, though, has always been the Model Organization of American States class. However, my all-time favorite class was a one-time study abroad session, team taught with Professor Werth in Ecuador—Ecuadorian history and culture to provide context for Dr. Werth’s foray into the Equatorial/Galapagos ecosystem and evolutionary biology.”

(2) I honestly can’t say I disliked any class that I taught. My least successful class was a class I taught only once: “Latin American History through Film.” I was so excited about the class, but it seemed

most of my students were more drawn to the “film” part than the “Latin American History” part.”

(3) “First task is to move out of my office, downsize our house for a move to Richmond, prepare the house for sale ... and taking time throughout for travel. I also have some small research/writing projects I’ll be working on—for my own enjoyment, even if they never get into print.”

(4) A lot of things: the students, the daily challenge of taking what I want to teach and making it as palatable to students as possible, the daily interaction with young people, even the committee work. What I won’t miss is the grading.



Dr. Daniel G. Mossler

Squires Professor of History

Mossler currently serves as the Chairman of the Psychology department. He received his Ph.D. in Psychology at the University of Virginia in 1978. Mossler has been teaching at Hampden-Sydney College for 27 years.

(1) “Introduction to Psychology, because it gives me an opportunity to “turn students on” and introduce them to the field of Psychology.”

(2) “I really don’t have a least favorite course. I have enjoyed teaching a wide variety of courses here at the college. My Quantitative Methods or Behavioral Statistics course has been the most challenging course I have taught.”

(3) “My wife and I moved to Clarksville last summer and I look forward to sit-

ting by the lake in the sun, drinking a glass of wine, and reading a good book. We will probably travel internationally if and when the pandemic is over.”

(4) “I will really miss getting to know my students while chatting in my office between classes, having dinner at my home, or talking about life with a cigar and a glass of wine on my porch. Those conversations and interactions have been a great source of joy for me.”

H-SC Bids Farewell to Dean of Students Robert Sabbatini

GRAYSON HARMON '22
STAFF WRITER

After serving nearly six years as Hampden-Sydney College’s Dean of Students, Dean Robert Sabbatini has accepted a new position as Executive Director of the ESVA Chamber of Commerce and the Eastern Shore Tourism Commission. Following a brief interview with the seemingly always-busy Sabbatini, he will now be working on the Eastern Shore of Virginia “advocating and working for the businesses and promoting the businesses on the Eastern Shore and also the tourism aspect of it as well.” Sabbatini already has a home on the Eastern Shore and is currently set up in his new job location, but he noted that he would be back

on Hampden-Sydney’s campus before the school year’s end. Sabbatini began working at H-SC in June of 2015, and he is proud of his many accomplishments, like getting his envisioned plans into motion off the bat and how the H-SC community flourished. Specifically, he is most proud of the students’ “perseverance and ability to adapt” year-in and year-out, especially this past year with COVID-19. He said this about his near-six-year tenure as Dean of Students: “having worked at other institutes of higher learning, colleges, and universities. . . you guys (H-SC Students) are some of the best I have ever seen.”

He had nothing but good things to say about H-SC, and he credits the students, faculty, and staff for his good expe-

riences at H-SC. Also, he says that he has no regrets when looking back on his time at Hampden-Sydney. Current Associate Dean of Students for Student Engagement & Judicial Affairs, Richard Pantele ’13 had this to say about Sabbatini: “Dean Sabbatini’s contributions to Hampden-Sydney are too numerous to list. From his work with enhancing our residence life program and new student orientation to his spirit of collaboration, Dean Sabbatini certainly made many positive and long-lasting changes to Hampden-Sydney. He is a great mentor and a friend to all. Dean Sabbatini is a true believer in what I personally say often—‘Hampden-Sydney College produces what the world needs most—Good Men and Good Citizens.’ We will miss

Dean Sabbatini, but we look forward to carrying forward the legacy he has left behind.”

As Sabbatini steps into his new role as Executive Director of the ESVA Chamber of Commerce and the Eastern Shore Tourism Commission, he explains that Interim Dean of Students will be named on May 8, 2021. From there, a full search for the Dean of Students will occur once this Interim Dean is named. Moving forward, Sabbatini hopes that the new hire will embrace Hampden-Sydney’s rich tradition and culture, and he stresses the importance to the new hire of becoming well-acquainted with the H-SC community to ensure success moving forward in the future. He believes that by doing these proactive things early on, the new hire will share

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We accept submissions in the form of letters or guest columns. Brevity is encouraged. Interested writers, cartoonists, and photographers can send us an e-mail at newspaper@hsc.edu.

the same success as he did. As far as advice for incoming faculty and students, he mentioned doing research on the college, its his-

tory, what it stands for, and its existing civil discourse before arriving on campus.

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Feature: A Look at Study Abroad in Münster

VARUN YERRAMSETTI '21
STAFF WRITER

There are many May Term courses and programs offered at Hampden-Sydney, and students are required to pay an additional fee independent from their tuition to enroll in May Term classes. These programs are not known for being inexpensive, but they offer unique benefits to students not found during the regular semester. There is one May Term program that offers more benefits than the others, for roughly the same price. It is the May Term Abroad in Germany, and it is arguably the best-kept secret of Hampden-Sydney College. Colloquially known as the “Münster Program,” the May Term Abroad to Germany has been taking students to Münster since 2005. Dr. Dirk Johnson, current Elliott Professor of German, took over the program in 2013, along with Longwood’s tenured

German professor Dr. Brett Martz. Under their leadership, the program developed an agenda of “experiential learning,” which was successful enough to make the Münster the school’s first-ever Compass Initiative program in 2019. Many students are frustrated by Hampden-Sydney’s mandatory foreign language requirement, but only a few students are aware of advantages of choosing German. This is largely due to the Hampden-Sydney administration’s lackluster communication within the community. Individuals like Dr. Johnson are forced to use their valuable instruction time to complete the duties neglected by select administrators. Many students enroll in German classes due to Dr. Johnson’s personality, only to learn that his German curriculum is the most cohesive way to finish the school’s foreign language requirement. The fastest way to complete this

language requirement is to complete GERM 101 in the fall semester, GERM 102 in the spring semester, and then taking GERM 201 and GERM 202 during the May Term in Germany. There are many advantages to completing 201 and 202 abroad that students will not find on Hampden-Sydney’s campus. “Germany is a great first foreign country to visit,” says Hunter Fuller ’22, who attended the Münster program the last time it was held. “Going to GERM 201 and GERM 202 was a lot easier when you could practice the language at all times of the day,” says Zachary Doleman ’21, another alumnus from the Münster program. All of the program’s alumni, including the late Thomas R. Salmon ’21, shared the desire to return to Germany. “It is hard convincing people to make the jump,” says Dr. Johnson, “but those who decide to attend always love Deutschland enough to return.” The

program starts in East Germany in Erfurt and Weimar for a week, where Dr. Johnson and Dr. Martz introduce students to the politics and culture of the former Soviet German Democratic Republic. The professors give tours of culturally significant landmarks, such as the Nietzsche Haus, the Goethe Haus, and the Buchenwald concentration camp. Then, students attend four weeks of classes in Münster, making for an accelerated six credit program. There is a long weekend midway through the program, which most students use to travel around Europe. After classes, the program ends with a week in Berlin. “We encourage students to get there before the program starts, or stay and travel after the program ends,” says Dr. Johnson. “There



is a level of maturity and freedom that students learn from going on this trip,” contends Dr. Johnson, “as going from your college dorm to Germany is the only similar experience students have for graduating college and starting life.”

Historically, the program’s cost

has been a barrier to entry for many students. According to Dr. Johnson, the Münster Program is not much more expensive than a traditional May Term on campus: except for alcohol and plane tickets, you are going to Germany for six weeks

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COVID-19 And Classes: Looking Back on “Unprecedented Times”

DRAKE KALINOWSKI '23
STAFF WRITER

To say that this school year has been markedly different from others that have gone before it is perhaps the most egregious understatement in the College’s history. From the most minute details about attire around campus to the organizations of whole events, classes, and even meal times, nothing is the same as it was even one short year ago. Students that came to Hampden-Sydney for the first time were greeted with a very different experience than even the sophomore class had during their first year on the Hill. Of all the ways that this year has been different from others, however, the experience of the students and faculty are perhaps the most striking and immediate in the minds of the Hampden-Sydney community. Among all of the strangeness of this year, there is something that makes Hampden-Sydney unique compared to most other colleges in the United States. To Dean Richard Pantele ’15, this unique factor was obvious. “We [The Hampden-Sydney Community] owe a big thanks to the students for cooperating with COVID measures. It’s because of their diligence and willingness to adapt and take this seriously that we were able

to remain in person, while so many other colleges were not.” Hampden-Sydney banded together, as it always has, throughout the turmoil set before it this year. Pantele acknowledged that every member of our community had to make sacrifices, whether it was forgoing in-person education for the safety of a loved one, or spending the nights with just our roommates according to the (recently revised) visitor policy. While the staff of Hampden-Sydney are hopeful for a regular fourteen-week semester for the fall of 2021, Pantele also admitted that things are far from “sunshine and roses.” Honor violations have gone up this year for reasons that may seem obvious. Temptation becomes much harder to fight when our brothers and instructors are not physically present to remind us of the commitment we made to each other. However, even to this ugliness, there is a bright side. The honor violations spiked at the beginning of this school year, but have tapered off to normal levels, according to Dean Pantele. Clearly, learning has suffered from wholesale incorporation of remote learning. Most students, Pantele says, would almost certainly prefer the in-person experience that makes HSC so unique and

academically rigorous. The students are not alone in their desire to resume in-person classes in as normal a fashion as possible. Pantele credits the enthusiasm of the faculty and their motivation to provide the young men of the College with the best education possible for the academic success exhibited by the students this year, despite the challenges faced by both the student body and the faculty. Hampden-Sydney is part of a larger community, with the town of Farmville so close by, in addition to institutions like Longwood and Sweet Briar neighboring the College. Pantele was proud to say that through the measures taken by the College and subsequent seriousness with which those measures were respected, HSC was able to be a positive entity in our regional community, and the students were models of the Good Citizen the College strives to produce. A credit to his H-SC education, Pantele ended on a poignant note that all members of the College should remember when our community faces difficult times. “This will not be the last time we face challenges. But times like this never fail to bring the community together, and make us stronger and more ready for the challenges ahead of us.”

Christians’ Corner

Questions for Christians, Answered by a Christian: The Last Corner

ISAAC WHITFIELD '21
STAFF WRITER

Praised be the author of Life! Our God and King Jesus Christ! My brothers and sisters in Christ, this will be my last Christian’s corner as I am graduating this May the 8th. I want to let you all know what a joy and pleasure it has been to write for you. As I reflect on my four years here, as the unreflective life is no life at all, I want to share my testimony, and write about the faithfulness of God. I came here baptized in the Independent Southern Baptist tradition, and as all college students do I imagine, I stopped going to Church. For a period of about two-years I would say, I was quite dead, numb. Sure, there were happy moments, but this world had a grip on me, to some extent I am still dealing with that period of my life. But thankfully for us, the grace and mercy of the Lord is never-ending. Even in the dark-

est moments of my sin, mercy abounded all the more as St. Paul says. I converted to Catholicism thanks to, I believe, The Holy Spirit, and thanks be to Him that I can now say church attendance is not a problem, in fact, it is all pure joy that I can go at all. I received Sacraments this past June. All this to say my brothers and sisters, is that I pulled a lesson from the jaws of my story that I want to share with you now. Your sin is not special. Do you understand? For a long, long time, I thought myself irredeemable. God hated me, and I just need to move on with my 60 some odd years and go to Hell after. But I am here to say to you, the reader, that this is not the God we serve. Do you doubt the mercy of God? Do you know who bore your guilt, your shame, your iniquities? It was He. The author of Life. Scripture tells us that He was at the beginning, in fact, He is why there was a beginning at all. Catholic tradition tells us that Jesus

Christ saw all the sin we would commit in the garden of Gethsemane, and He still gave Himself up willingly for you. I thought I would find a tyrant, instead I found a Father. I thought I would find an executioner; instead I found a paraclete. I thought I would find anger, instead I found Love Himself. This is what you will find to. That wound, that burden that is so heavy will not heal, unless you see a doctor, the great physician. Remember how Jesus healed many while he was here? This life is not easy, its calls us to a higher standard, and that is uncomfortable, but it is the only life worth living. I leave you siblings in Christ, with as much encouragement and love as the Father gifts me, with the best advice I can give. Mary, the theotokos, said, “Do whatever he (Jesus) tells you.” Amen. Forever your brother in Jesus Christ, God and King, Isaac Whitfield ’21

Water in Gilmer, cont’d

filtered water for their dorm in the Blakes. Hargadon elaborated that regardless of what water is being tested, there will always be communities of harmless and naturally occurring microbes. These contaminants are not only found in the water on campus but throughout the surrounding areas as

well. Hargadon ensures that, “making efforts to avoid the campus’ water supply is certainly not necessary.” Akers still has his concerns but points out that the Hampden-Sydney administration took prompt action sterilizing any potential contaminations in the building. The circulation of false

information about the contamination has created a disconnect between students and staff on campus. Many of the rumors that were spread about the campus’ water supply are falsely exaggerated causing unwarranted concern. Hargadon emphasized that while concerns about water cleanliness are

still present, it is safe to drink and use tap water for food preparation. The amoebae outbreak was only treated to prevent interruptions to research in the building

and not due to health risks. Hargadon gave a vote of confidence in the campus water supply stating, “Hampden-Sydney College has always submitted samples for monthly

testing to ensure that its water is safe for drinking.” As such, the amoebas that were found in Gilmer Hall’s water supply are not a cause for concern.

LIFE

Hockey Corner

ZAC RICHMAN '22
STAFF WRITER

Washington Capitals News:

The Capitals have been on a great streak lately, winning 7 of their last 10 games, trouncing the Islanders 3 times in a row, Philly twice, Buffalo once and Boston once. With Van-cek and Samsonov splitting games pretty evenly, both goalies are playing at the top of their game.

Ovechkin suffered a minor injury that kept him out of the Islanders game on 4/27 but should be fine in time to return for the playoffs. Anthony Mantha has turned out to be a fantastic pickup netting 4 goals and providing 2 assists in just 7 games. Vrana was traded, Panik was traded, Siegenthaler was traded, Michael Raffl was picked up.

It was devastating to see Vrana go, as many had viewed the young star as a potential future captain when it was time for Ovechkin to hang up the skates. Not only that but to trade two draft picks and Pan-ik for Mantha, who was not playing too hot in Detroit, the Capitals were seen as the biggest losers of the trade deadline. Mantha is

playing well, which is fortunate, but the sting is still there, especially as many point to the dreading feeling that Oshie will probably be snapped up by the Seattle Kraken in the upcoming expansion draft. If there is a way to protect both goalies and all the necessary stars, the

Rank:	Team:	Power Ranking
1	Colorado Avalanche	+5
2	Washington Capitals	+1
3	Carolina Hurricanes	+4
4	Florida Panthers	+2
5	Vegas Golden Knights	-3
6	Toronto Maple Leafs	+2
7	Pittsburgh Penguins	+7
8	Minnesota Wild	+4
9	New York Islanders	-8
10	Boston Bruins	+3
11	New York Rangers	+6
12	Tampa Bay Lightning	-7
13	Edmonton Oilers	-3
14	Dallas Stars	
15	New York Rangers	+1
16	Montreal Canadiens	+0

Capitals should come out of the draft relatively unscathed, minus the loss of Oshie.

Finally, the Capitals have just a few games left to play. (8 I believe, without checking my notes) Standing just a point

above the Penguins, it's precarious at the top. Mathematically, they're one of the favorites to win the Cup this year. Let's make it happen.

League Wide News: NBC will stop airing NHL games as they make the switch to ESPN as the primary broadcasting part-

sweet profits is Turner Sports, which is supported through Bleacher Report digitally. (NBC has Peacock, and ESPN has ESPN+) If NBC wants back in, they're going to have to wait until 2028, when ESPN's Contract will expire as the lead partner.

While this isn't necessarily the most interesting news, it points to a larger shift in media conglomerates sweeping up more and more programs under their purview. I'm going to miss Doc and Eddie.

Looking on to the West, Vegas has kept pushing to secure their top dog spot. Colorado in second and Minnesota in third, with St. Louis and Arizona, which are both tightly locked up for the final spot in the division.

The Yotes are batting .480 right now, which shows just how weak the Western division is. Not even a winning record and they're in contention for the playoffs. The top three teams are going to be in shock when they have to face some real teams. Central Division. Still known as the Florida bully zone. Carolina leads the way with 69 points and Dal-

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Eggcellent Work: The Return of the Omelet Bar

BENJAMIN HAGER '23
STAFF WRITER

Students rejoiced upon returning to campus after Spring Break when they saw that the fabled omelet bar had returned to the dining hall after a mysterious disappearance last semester. What happened to the omelet bar, and why did it come back all of the sudden? These are the questions that I set out to answer, and they brought me to one Connor Eickelman '24. Below is a transcript from my interview with Eickelman. **Benjamin Hager:** What role did you play in bringing back the omelet bar? **Connor Eickelman:** That's a tough question to answer because I can't see behind the scenes... What I can say is that I asked basically everyone I could find in administration, "Why isn't the omelet bar at the dining hall?" I kept getting different answers, so I kept asking and eventually they must have figured that it was better to just bring back the omelet bar than to put up with the constant questioning. **BH:** What made you want to inquire into this issue? **CE:** When I first visited the school, I remember Ferguson pointing out where the omelet bar would be. The juniors and seniors I was friends with wouldn't shut up about how much they missed the omelet bar, so I decided it couldn't hurt to ask about it. The answer I got didn't make

any sense. I went to the kitchen manager, who said they had a corporate policy that said they couldn't cook food in front of students, which struck me as odd because they regularly cook and cut food at the butcher's corner, and they regularly cook pizza for lunch and dinner, so that policy didn't seem to apply very strongly. At that point, I decided that I was going to keep asking until I got a reasonable answer. I contacted President Stimpert's office about it multiple times, and President Stimpert seemed very receptive to my questions every time, but I never really heard back from him. Meanwhile, I asked the district manager of Thompson about the omelet bar. He said that in prior years, students tended to congregate around the omelet bar, forming a tightly packed line that would be a COVID risk. I went back to my seat at lunch and talked to a senior who told me that there was no more congregating due to the omelet bar than there was in any other part of the dining hall. At this point, I was disturbed, I think is the best way to put it because it seemed to me that no one really knew why the omelet bar wasn't back, so at this point I decided that I would write an article for the tiger, the draft of which is still on my laptop. Then, spring break rolled around, and when we came back, the omelet bar came back with us.

Race and Ethic Studies , cont'd

the College and within the student body. The proposal that was presented during the faculty meeting also explained that the minor would also be made of two one-hour credit courses, a class that introduces students to the minor and a capstone. Emmons explained that the introduction course, as well as the minor as a whole, would be interdisciplinary. She went on to state that the setup of the course is intended to "bring in faculty from different departments [that] will bring into the discussion the way that their discipline talks about [race and ethnicity]." Looking closer into the setup of the minor, Utzinger commented that the "idea is to bring various professors from all possible fields of study each week in the [one-hour

introduction course] to bring an understanding of how critical race theory relates to their field." Hardy explained that the capstone will encourage students to "pull information from different disciplines" into their capstones. She added that "every spring there will be a symposium that features students' work and ideas." Utzinger stated that the minor will encourage faculty and students to "practice talking about controversies and [race relations] in a way that focuses on listening." He went on to state that the minor displays the mission of the college—to form good men and good citizens—by providing them with the "necessary tools" for the twenty-first century.

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Fork in the Road: A Cultural Shift at H-SC

VARUN YERRAMSETTI '21
STAFF WRITER

The reality of Hampden-Sydney College is that the professors and the students make the place special. The students and professors propagate the school's unique culture. Unfortunately, people who have been around the community for many years have seen an obvious cultural shift take place on campus. It has become more difficult to "get stuff done" at H-SC.

The College's administration has become so concerned with saving money and their reputation that they have removed virtually all incentives to accomplish things, social or financial. The professors are barely incentivized to stay at Hampden-Sydney, and it is difficult to convince new hires to move to Farmville, Virginia.

The administration's pattern of ignoring their student's requests to improve the quality of residential and academic life has clearly influenced freshmen enrollment and retention numbers. Our College's president sends regular emails boasting about multi-million-dollar donations but refuses to acknowledge his own student's re-

quests for better food, more parking, and a ride-share system.

The College's president made the decision to not build any new parking lots by the Grove apartments, demonstrating how out-of-touch he is with student life: how many times do you think Dr. Stimpert has had to carry multiple bags of groceries from the Wilson Trail parking lot to the top floor of Cushing?

The disconnect between the administration and the student body was exasperated by many of the rule changes concerning residential and social life over the past five years. These changes were made in good faith due to tragedy, but the cultural shift was spurred along by certain individuals in the administration who did not attend Hampden-Sydney College.

This cultural shift is represented by the changes made to the honor code, the new architecture style in the Grove apartments and Rhetoric Studio, the departure of Anita Garland, and the increased sanctions on social and Greek life. The people that run this school fail to understand how the culture attracts new students: people do not come to Farmville, Virginia without

a compelling reason to be here. These administrators shamelessly use their position to enrich their own career, instead of working to improve Hampden-Sydney.

This unique COVID year allowed the student body and the professors to learn about the character of these administrators: these people are dead set in their ways and refuse to hear any feedback. Some of the administrators that work here would give an arm and a leg to help a student, but the administrators I am writing about refuse to acknowledge any suggestions or constructive criticism from anybody, especially students.

Students, faculty, and staff identify problems and develop solutions on their own time and dime. Their administrative counterparts refuse to implement these policies and solutions, even though they work from 9:00am-5:00pm. They have a history of taking credit for the ideas and actions of others, while neglecting to fulfill the duties of their office that align with the mission of Hampden-Sydney.

The irony of the Honor Code is that the administrators that happily enforce it on students do not actually follow it themselves.

THE BACK PAGE

Hampden-Sydney Boys Re-Enacting Club

MERCER GARNETT III '24
AND
SPENCER PARRISH '21
GUEST WRITERS

The following are a short collection of faux revolutionary war letters. The correspondence is between two brothers.

One brother, Samuel, was a first-year student of our beloved Hampden-Sydney College. A college that was just built on land purchased from a Loyalist and named in honor of those who spoke out against the crown.

The second, Clement, was a youth of 16 that stayed at home to help run the family farm and give what aid he could to the war effort. While not a direct account of those who came before

us on these hallowed grounds, the letters give an inside look into the hardships of the war. Of the 110 students, as well as the professors and administration, most of the Hampden-Sydney men helped to form a collegiate company in 1776, which drilled on campus for about a year before being called into service.

Despite their efforts in drill and being the first collegiate company organized in the colonies, the 'Hampden-Sydney Boys' never faced combat as a single unit. Many of these 'Hampden-Sydney Boys' went on to serve in numerous roles during the war, including the famed 3rd Continental Light Dragoons under Washington and the infamous Light Horse Harry Lee's Legion.

Dearest Brother,

I know that in these chaotic times that the Commonwealth can use all of the help it can get but seeing mother in such a panicked sorrow over the potential for war leaves me with a heavy heart. I wish that I could take up the musket as you have, and as Father did against the French, before he was killed... I wish I could muster up a memory of him. Mother is scraping together what pokeweed berries she can so that you and the boys can have some uniformity to your hunting shirts. Home has changed. The abundance that we knew in youth has left our home.

Send word of your exploits soon.

Your loving brother,
Samuel

Dear Brother,

Life preparing for battle against the regulars is certainly exciting. I used to load a rifle leisurely and slowly back home, but after a few weeks of drill I like to think that I have mastered the quick and precise movements required with a musket in line. Sometimes I think the drill is excessive, but I assume that they teach it this way for a reason. Marching also felt odd, it was much slower than I expected, but I suppose moving as one comes at a price. Not to mention that it feels incredible to get the movements down as one. You would especially love the bayonet charges! One of the fellows reckoned it made him feel like an ancient warrior, and we were roaring and hollering like banshees by the end, but I think he just reads too much of that Gibbons fellow. I feel awfully sorry about Mother. Thank her for working on gathering dyes for our shirts and tell her hard work makes the spirits here high. Many of the men seem to think that this is only the beginning.

Keep watch over Mother and home,

Your brother,
Clement

Makers' Lab, cont'd

enrolled in Computer Science courses at Hampden-Sydney or not. The Programming club is closely related to the Maker's Collective, much like the Phi Beta Lambda professional development organization is closely related to the TigerFund. With a printer and several powerful computers, the Makers' Space is tailored for coding. Many of the projects the Makers' Collective is working on involve coding in Python or C++, and the extra-curricular nature of the two-club relationship makes for a very inclusive organization. Any

student who wants to develop their STEM background has the ability to be a part of this science, technology, engineering, and math "incubator." One of the main goals of the student-led STEM incubator is to rekindle the Energy Research Group. Very few students know about the College's Energy Research Lab, located near the Observatory on the back-end of Via Sacra. Built by Dr. Paul Hemler using grant money from the Pensmore foundation, the Energy Research Lab is "a unique opportunity to research energy monitoring, ener-

gy conservation, and sustainable housing in a grant-based project on campus (hsc.edu)." The Maker's Collective's intuitive approach to problem solving will help H-SC's Energy Research Group tackle energy challenges, as global warming has made the summers hotter and the winters colder. America's new administration is looking to sanction oil and gas-based energy sources, and the Makers'/Programming incubator. With STEM experience in high demand, this incubator is a great way for Hampden-Sydney students

to learn hard-skills through the Makers' Collective, soft-skills through the programming club, and then simultaneously apply these skills while working in the Energy Research Lab. The Makers' Collective has provided several students the means to start a business and be entrepreneurial. The goal of the incubator is to continue this. Interested students should contact Dr. Andrew King at aking@hsc.edu to become involved with Hampden-Sydney's newest resume-boosting opportunity.

Hockey, cont'd

las holds on by just a thread, just 2 points behind Nashville at 54 and 56 respectively. Don't be the team that loses to Nashville. Were y'all all Stanley Cup runner-ups last year? Oh how far the mighty have fallen.

The North is real. Toronto exists, Edmonton exists. Winnipeg and Montreal kind of exist. With a 7-point gap between Toronto and Edmonton, there is a pretty clear favorite heading into the final games of the season. That always works out for them (If they're allowed to travel). The League is currently in a struggle with the Canadian government

and Canadian teams may need to relocate to the US for a couple of months. No need to bother in my opinion.

The East. Buffalo stopped losing all of their games. That's good for them. Unfortunately, the 6th place team in the league has 51 points and they have 33. Too little, too late. The fight is intensely close, with the Capitals and Penguins separated by just a point. Islanders aren't far behind but stand little chance of winning the division. Boston sits on a narrow precipice as well, just two points above the Rangers. It is going to be a tough battle as it has been all year.

Fork, cont'd

that embodies the values Hampden-Sydney stood for during its cultural heyday. This path could be easily taken if a mere handful of administrators begin working to enrich the community by adding to it, instead of removing things. The frustrations felt

among the community are why our favorite brothers transfer or drop out, and our favorite professors move on to greener pastures. Even the most patient members of our community will become fed-up with a lack of incentive, recognition, and gratitude.

Münster , cont'd

and receiving six credit hours, all expenses paid. Your host families will provide meals, so spending money on food is not a concern. Stores display the tax pre-factored into the prices of their goods and services, and tipping is not a big part of German culture.

Beer in Germany is notoriously inexpensive. "The host family is advantageous because of the cultural immersion, the built-in tutoring, and the networking opportunity," says Dr. Johnson. This sentiment is echoed by program alumnus Nick Zurasky '22, who notes that being forced to spend time in a foreign country made him step out of his comfort zone.

"Living with a host family was my favorite part of the experience," says Zurasky, "and I am grateful to have had a host brother that I keep in touch with to this day." Dr. Johnson noted that the Office of Global Affairs has an internal Hampden-Sydney scholarship fund to support study abroad. He also noted the plethora of national scholarships and grants that support undergraduate study abroad programs.

Diligent students would look to take advantage of this opportunity, as it is an easier way to complete the foreign language requirement in merely half the time.

Students interested in the Business and Economics program should strongly consider choosing German. Germany is the economic powerhouse of Europe, and they have some of the best universities that are free to attend. The program is a great way to visit English-medium graduate schools in Munster and greater Germany. Dr. Johnson notes Germany's political significance in the European Union because of its ties to Russia, giving the country a significant political role that government/foreign affairs majors could benefit from learning.

"I would say the Munster program added value to me because its experiential nature," Zurasky says. "Instead of learning German from a textbook, you are immersed in the language and culture. You will not feel the desire to retreat to your room after class, because the new experiences are irresistible."

Arieti , cont'd

relatives where they live and to see some of my former students. I hope that many of them will keep in touch with me even though I am retired. I hope to continue to study and to contribute any ideas that might possibly be meaningful to anybody." (4) "I shall miss rig-

orous arguments with students, conversations with colleagues, and my early morning bike rides to central campus listening to the birds and the breezes and recording the change of seasons in my memory. This is a lovely campus, a hospitable environment for birds and other wildlife."